



WELL DEVELOPMENTS

Spring - 2007

BWWC

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406-444-6643

BOARD MEMBERS

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TopoFinder I

*(locations can be plotted via
Lat/Long, and result includes map
with TRS)*

Montana State Plane Coordinate Conversion Tool

*(converts from Lat/Long to
State Plane coordinates)*

Montana Public Land Survey Subsection Finder

*(converts from State Plane to
Lat/Long coordinates)*

Latitude/Longitude Format Conversion Tool

*(converts between different
Lat/Long formats)*

Well Location

The correct location of a well is an integral part of the well log, and providing an accurate description of the location is an invaluable service to your customer and the State of Montana. This information is usually determined and reported by

- 1) the 1/4, 1/4, 1/4 system utilized by the DNRC water rights staff - or -
- 2) the use of a GPS unit.

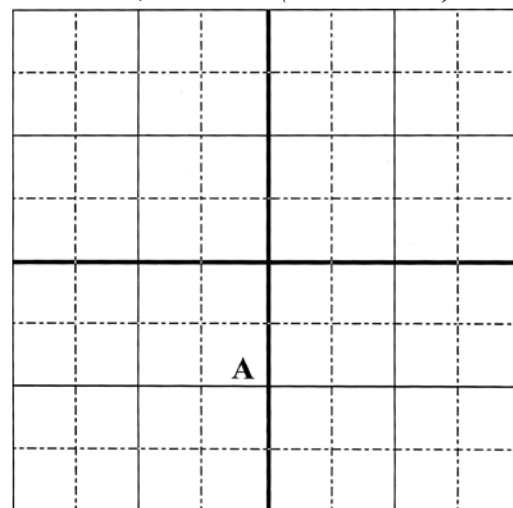
If using the DNRC system, please use as much detail as possible when describing the location (to the nearest 10 acres). To describe any point in a 640 acre section, the section is first divided into quarters of 160 acres. A quarter is described as being either the northeast (NE), northwest (NW), southeast (SE), or southwest (SW) quarter of the section. For a more precise location, the quarters can be divided in a like manner into 40 acre quarters. To further describe a location, the 40-acre quarters can be similarly divided into 10-acre quarters.

The legal description of a parcel of land, when written, always begins with the smallest division and then proceeds to the largest division. For example, a well drilled at the location marked "A" in the illustration would be legally described as: "The SE1/4 NE1/4 SW1/4 of Section __, T__N, R__W". To make the land description easier to understand, say "of the" between the quarter sections. ie: the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4.

To describe a location that covers a large area, such as a lake, the section may be divided in half and described as either the N1/2, S1/2, W1/2, or E1/2 of the section. A larger location may be described by the section number. If additional information is available regarding

1 : 24,000

(2.64" = 1 mile)



The grid above can be photocopied onto a transparency and used as an overlay for topographic maps of the same scale.

subdivisions (lot, block), please include that as well. This information can usually be obtained from the county clerk or recorder, but is also potentially available online, either through the individual county websites or via the Montana Cadastral Mapping Project:

<http://cadastral.mt.gov/>

If using a GPS unit, remember to watch your datum. There have been occurrences where individuals have taken the time to make sure that the GPS reading is as accurate as possible, and then misread or misreport the datum. Another common error amongst GPS users is interchanging lat/long coordinates in degrees with decimal minutes and coordinates reported in decimal degrees.

It's always a good idea to check your coordinates against a topographic map to see if they make sense, and there are several tools available on the Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) website:

<http://nris.mt.gov/interactive.html>

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Subdivisions

With continuing population growth and land sales, new subdivisions of all sizes are cropping up across the state. While subdivisions provide new opportunities for well drillers and contractors, they also can bring complications due to the overlapping layers of government oversight. A reoccurring and particularly contentious issue is the well location. The Board of Water Well Contractors has the following general requirements for well location:

36.21.638 LOCATION OF WELLS

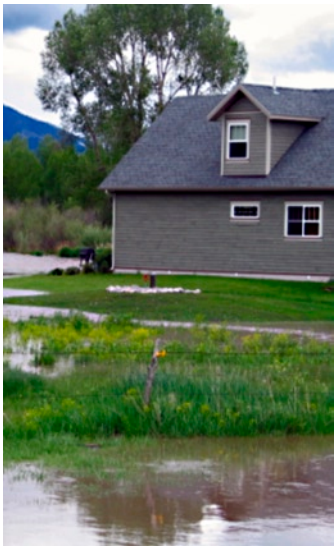
- (1) At a minimum, unless contamination risk is evident, water wells shall not be located within:
 - a. 50 feet of septic tanks, and underground storage tanks and associated lines; or
 - b. 100 feet of drainfields, seepage pits or cesspools, or other site treatment systems.
- (2) Water wells should not be located within:
 - a. 10 feet of property lines unless properly protected by easement or agreement;

- b. 10 feet of sewer lines with permanent watertight joints; or
 - c. 50 feet of other sewer lines.
- (3) Contractors should contact local flood plain administrators for rules pertaining to wells in flood plain areas.

While observing these requirements ensures compliance with the Board of Water Well Contractors, additional regulations may apply for wells drilled in subdivisions. In many cases, the jurisdiction and responsibility for review is shared between the Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the county offices, and additional rules regarding well location may apply. Typically, the well is permitted for a very specific location, and cannot be changed without prior approval.

In any case, proceed with caution when contracting for a well in a subdivision. A couple of phone calls (one to the local county officials, and one to DEQ) can help to minimize potential problems. A list of subdivision contacts is included below for your use.

County Subdivision Contacts (Environmental Health Dept./Sanitarian)			
Beaverhead	(406) 683-3770	McCone	(406) 433-6876
Big Horn	(406) 665-8724	Meagher	(406) 761-5631
Blaine	(406) 357-3310	Mineral	(406) 822-3525
Broadwater	(406) 266-9209	Missoula	(406) 258-4755
Carbon	(406) 446-1694	Mussellshell	(406) 538-7466
Carter	(406) 538-8375	Park	(406) 222-4142
Cascade	(406) 454-6950	Petroleum	(406) 538-7466
Chouteau	(406) 622-3016	Phillips	(406) 654-2465
Custer	(406) 874-3490	Pondera	(406) 271-4036
Daniels	(406) 765-3458 x464	Powder River	(406) 366-0627
Dawson	(406) 377-5772	Powell	(406) 846-2420
Deerlodge	(406) 563-4066	Prairie	(406) 377-5772
Fallon	(406) 778-7102	Rivalli	(406) 375-6565
Fergus	(406) 538-7466	Richland	(406) 433-6876
Flathead	(406) 751-8130	Roosevelt	(406) 765-3458 x464
Gallatin	(406) 582-3120	Rosebud	(406) 356-2528
Garfield	(406) 232-0273	Sanders	(406) 827-6961
Glacier	(406) 873-4461	Sheridan	(406) 765-3458 x464
Golden Valley	(406) 538-7466	Silverbow	(406) 497-5020
Granite	(406) 563-4066	Stillwater	(406) 322-8055
Hill	(406) 265-5481 x266	Sweet Grass	(406) 932-5395
Jefferson	(406) 225-4126	Teton	(406) 466-2150
Judith Basin	(406) 538-7466	Toole	(406) 424-8340
Lake	(406) 883-7236	Treasure	(406) 356-2528
Lewis & Clark	(406) 447-8351	Valley	(406) 228-6264
Liberty	(406) 424-8343	Wheatland	(406) 377-2770
Lincoln	(406) 293-7781 X228	Wibaux	(406) 377-5772
Madison	(406) 843-4275	Yellowstone	(406) 256-2770



Plan Ahead - Renewals

The renewal period is coming up fast. Plan ahead and avoid the headache that goes with last minute or late registration. For those individuals who did not attend the annual MWWDA convention, or have otherwise not completed the required four hours of training, there's still time to get your continuing education credits. A list of possible CEC opportunities can be found below.

There has also been some confusion regarding the required documentation for Certificates of Deposits (CD's) and Savings Certificates. If you are using one of these financial instruments in lieu of a bond, please read the information to the right:

For those contractors and monitoring well constructors with bonds, please remember that demonstrable proof requires a hard copy document showing that your bond is current and has been renewed through the next licensing year.

Certificates of Deposits and Savings Certificates

- 1) Just as with a Surety Bond, you will need to show proof that the CD or Savings Certificate has been renewed or is current. When asked to do so last year, many contractors indicated that copies of the original document were on file at the DNRC. While this may be true, the original document will not show that the CD or Savings Certificate has been renewed and is current through the next renewal cycle.
- 2) The CD or Savings Certificate must be made out in your name and the Montana Board of Water Well Contractors. A CD or Savings Certificate that does not include the Board will not satisfy the Bond requirements under §37-43-306 Montana Code Annotated.

Continuing Education Opportunities

A list of possible CEC's is also maintained on the Board website under "Driller Forms and Information"

Courses	Date	Location	Phone
Spring Water School (METC)	Apr. 4-6, 2007	Billings, MT	(406) 265-3763
Chlorine Disinfection (MWRS)	Apr. 17, 2007	Belgrade, MT	(406) 454-1151
Well/Septic Operation and Maintenance Workshops – 2 hrs (MT DEQ)	Apr. 18, 2007	Plains, MT	(406) 444-6697
Well/Septic Operation and Maintenance Workshops – 2 hrs (MT DEQ)	Apr. 19, 2007	Thompson Falls, MT	(406) 444-6697
Chlorine Disinfection (MWRS)	Apr. 19, 2007	Missoula, MT	(406) 454-1151
VFD Subdrive – 2 to 2.5 hrs (Franklin Pumps @ 2M Company)	Apr. 24, 2007	Billings, MT	(800) 234-7426
VFD Subdrive – 2 to 2.5 hrs (Franklin Pumps @ 2M Company)	Apr. 25, 2007	Bozeman, MT	(866) 556-8385
Small System Sampling (MRWS)	May 1, 2007	Libby, MT	(406) 454-1151
Small System Sampling (MRWS)	May 2, 2007	Polson, MT	(406) 454-1151
Small System Sampling (MRWS)	May 3, 2007	Hamilton, MT	(406) 454-1151
Well/Septic Operation and Maintenance Workshops – 2 hrs (MT DEQ)	May 3, 2007	Ronan	(406) 444-6697
Well/Septic Operation and Maintenance Workshops – 2 hrs (MT DEQ)	May 3, 2007	Big Fork	(406) 444-6697
GPS - 1 hr (Flathead Valley CC, Lincoln Co. Campus)	May 7, 2007	Libby, MT	(406) 293-2721
GPS - 1 hr (Flathead Valley CC, Lincoln Co. Campus)	May 8, 2007	Libby, MT	(406) 293-2721
GPS - 1 hr (Flathead Valley CC, Lincoln Co. Campus)	May 10, 2007	Libby, MT	(406) 293-2721
GPS - 1 hr (Flathead Valley CC, Lincoln Co. Campus)	May 11, 2007	Libby, MT	(406) 293-2721
Resolving Conflicts - Management (Flathead Valley CC, Main Campus)	May 16, 2007	Kalispell, MT	(406) 756-3832
OSHA 10-Hr General Industry Course (MOSHTI)	Jun. 12-13, 2007	Missoula, MT	(406) 444-6401
OSHA Welding and Compressed Gas Safety Requirements (MOSHTI)	Jun. 21, 2007	Great Falls, MT	(406) 444-6401
Intro to GPS (MSU – Northern)	Jun 22-23, 2007	Havre, MT	(800) 662-613

Dept. of Natural Resources - Water Rights Bureau

Regional Office	Counties served	Phone
Billings	Big Horn, Carbon, Carter, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, Yellowstone	(406) 247-4415
Bozeman	Gallatin, Madison, Park	(406) 586-3136
Glasgow	Daniels, Dawson, Garfield, McCone, Phillips, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Valley, Wibaux	(406) 228-2561
Havre	Blaine, Chouteau, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Pondera, Teton, Toole	(406) 265-5516
Helena	Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deerlodge, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Powell, Silverbow	(406) 444-6999
Kalispell	Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Sanders	(406) 752-2288
Lewistown	Cascade, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Meagher, Musselshell, Petroleum, Wheatland	(406) 538-7459
Missoula	Granite, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli	(406) 721-4284

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Persons with disabilities who need an alternative, accessible format of this document should contact:

DNRC, 1424 9th Avenue
PO Box 201601
Helena MT 59620-1601

406-444-6643
Fax 406-444-5918

Dept. of Environmental Quality Subdivision Review Program

Billings Office	(406) 247-4447
Helena Office	(406) 444-4400
Kalispell Office	(406) 755-8985
Missoula Office	(406) 258-3720



Board of Water Well Contractors

PO Box 201601
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